

Intrepid Irish on record spin

He has a dream--to reckon with a record that others might not dare to attempt. This is what this intrepid mountaineer-cum-cyclist from Dromara in Northern Ireland has vowed for some years now. Noel Hanna, 39, hops from one continent to another, climbing the highest elevation and getting back to the sea straightway paddling on a cycle, for seven times.

On May 21, Noel reached the top of Mt. Everest from the Tibetan side. As soon as he got to the base camp took a cycle and embarked for a sea shore in India. "The whole episode took 16 days, 23 hours and 15 minutes", he told *CityPost*.

Noel, a fitness instructor and an ex-policeman, thought of making a world record two years ago. He explained, "I'm looking for something more adventurous using human power. I've chosen bicycle for that reason." Noel commenced his journey from Latin America last year, where he successfully climbed Mt. Aconcagua (6962 meters) and rushed to the sea cycling. This time in Asia he reached Janput, a coast in West Bengal in India cycling about 310 kilometers in Tibet, 400 km in Nepal and over 1000 km in India. "It was tough this time in Asia, compared to the last (in Latin America)," he recounted "though it was challenging I enjoyed a lot."

Noel has planned to climb Mt. Elbrus (6962 m) in Russia , the highest peak in Europe next year. He is leaving Nepal on June 16 for home. (PR)

